Epollbooks: Ballot Activation With External Network Connectivity

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Draft VVSG Voting System Definition

voting system:

Equipment (including hardware, firmware, and software), materials, and documentation used to define elections and ballot styles, configure voting equipment, identify and validate voting equipment configurations, perform logic and accuracy tests, **activate ballots**, capture votes, count votes, reconcile ballots needing special treatment, generate reports, transmit election data, archive election data, and audit elections.

The voting system in the VVSG cannot be connected to external networks, e.g., state voter registration databases.
Epollbooks and External Connectivity

- At March 22-23 TGDC meeting, TGDC did not object to allowing epollbooks to activate the ballot while they are connected to external networks/databases at, e.g., precinct-less voting centers.
- STS has reconsidered this and now recommends that epollbooks not activate the ballot if connected externally.
  - Threats to security
  - Threats to reliability and integrity
- Various workarounds are possible so as to continue using epollbooks and not unduly affect voting centers
Discussion